

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08 RSR-01

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P R 080938 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3665

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USEC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR JAPAN US

SUBJ: MOFA TRANSCRIPT OF FONMIN OHIRA AIRPORT PRESS

CONFERENCE MAY 6

FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF MOFA TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS
CONFERENCE CONDUCTED BY FONMIN OHIRA AT TOKYU AIRPORT HOTEL ON
RETURN TO JAPAN FROM VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, FRANCE AND BELGIUM.
BEGIN TRANSCRIPT.

Q. WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE RESULTS OF YOUR EUROPEAN
VISIT?

A. I VISITED EUROPEAN NATIONS THIS TIME FEELING THAT
DIALOG WITH EUROPE INADEQUATE, COMPARED TO THAT WITH
UNITED STATES, BUT THEY WERE WAITING FOR ME THERE FAR
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MORE THAN IMAGINED FROM HERE, AND THEY SHOWED ATTITUDE OF GETTING DOWN TO WORK SERIOUSLY AND POSITIVELY. THEY EVALUATE HIGHLY FACT THAT JAPAN'S ECONOMIC POWER HAS BECOME GREAT, AND WISH TO HAVE STABLE RELATIONS WITH JAPAN IN ALL AREAS, SUCH AS ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL.

Q. HOW WILL JAPAN'S DIPLOMACY DEVELOP IN FUTURE?

A. IN EUROPE, UNDERSTANDING OF JAPAN NOT NECESSARILY ADEQUATE; FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS MISTAKEN UNDERSTANDING THAT JAPAN NOT VERY POSITIVE ABOUT OPENING MARKET THERE. ACCORDINGLY, CONTINUING DIALOG WITH EUROPEAN NATIONS ESSENTIAL. THESE NEED NOT BE REGULAR TALKS, OR AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL; KEY POINT IS THAT ENERGETIC DIALOG ESSENTIAL.

Q. IN US FOREIGN POLICY REPORT RELEASED ON 4 TH, UNITED STATES MADE SEVERE STATEMENTS IN ECONOMIC SECTOR. HOW IS THIS BEING TAKEN IN EUROPE?

A. IT SEEMS THAT EUROPE FEELS THAT IT WOULD BE UNBEARABLE IF JAPAN AND US BOTH INVADDED EUROPEAN MARKET TOGETHER. EUROPEANS SEEM TO WISH TO DISCUSS EUROPE-JAPAN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (DIRECTLY) WITH JAPAN. EVEN THOUGH THE UNITED STATES IS ENGAGED IN CONSTANT DIALOG (WITH JAPAN), IT SEEMS THERE ARE POINTS THE US ALSO FAILS TO UNDERSTAND. WITH RESPECT TO JAPAN-US ECONOMIC RELATIONS, I BELIEVE THAT THE SITUATION HAS BEEN IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY. IN FOREIGN POLICY MESSAGE, UNITED STATES SEEMS TO BE FEELING IMPATIENT. I FEEL THAT UNITED STATES HAS NOT COMPLETELY FREED ITSELF FROM OUTMODED IMAGE OF JAPAN. ON OTHER HAND, THOUGH JAPANESE ARE TOLD THAT JAPAN HAS BECOME GREAT ECONOMIC POWER, THEY DO NOT REALLY SENSE THAT THIS IS SO. JAPAN IS BEING CALLED TO ACCOUNT (FOR ECONOMIC PROBLEMS), BUT JAPANESE QUESTION WHETHER THIS IS REALLY JUSTIFIED. JAPANESE PEOPLE THEMSELVES WILL PROBABLY COME TO GRASP WORLDWIDE IMPACT OF THEIR ACTIONS AS WELFARE- FIRST POLICY MORE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED IN DOMESTIC POLICY AND AS THEY MAKE EFFORT TO MAINTAIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL BALANCE AT HIGH LEVEL. ALSO, AS THEY DO THIS, BOTH EUROPE AND AMERICA WILL PROBABLY INCREASE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF JAPAN. IN THAT SENSE, DOMESTIC ECONOMIC POLICY IS IMPORTANT.

Q. WHAT IS GOJ POSITION ON WHO MEETING WHICH BEGINS THE 7 TH (I. E., NORTH KOREAN ADMISSION?).

A. BASIC POSITION OF GOJ ON KOREAN PENINSULA
PROBLEM IS TO TAKE CARE NOT TO IMPAIR NORTH- SOUTH DIALOG.
GOJ WILL ACT SPECIFICALLY ON BASIS OF THIS PRINCIPLE.
NO MATTER WHAT WE DO, IT ESSENTIAL TO HAVE IT UNDER-
STOOD AT HOME AND ABROAD THAT THIS IS BASIS.

Q. WILL JAPAN BECOME JOINT SPONSOR TO SHELVE NORTH
KOREAN ADMISSION?

A. THIS IS QUESTION OF TECHNIQUE, AND WE
WISH TO DEAL WITH IT WITH A VIEW TO TIMING. WORKING
LEVEL HAS BEEN ORDERED TO STUDY THIS QUESTION, AND
WE WISH TO DECIDE AFTER HEARING RESULTS. END
TRANSCRIPT.
INGERSOLL

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